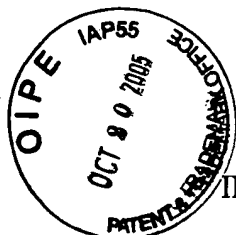


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenneth Stewart
Serial No.: 10/634,368
Filed: August 6, 2003
For: Bone Instrument Cover or Shield
Art Unit: 3736

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

October 16, 2005

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Evelyn M. Sommer
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Application Number	10/634368
Filing Date	8/6/03
First Named Inventor	K. STEWART
Art Unit	3736
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Attorney Docket Number	STEWART

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(54) BONE INSTRUMENTATION COVER OR
SHIELD

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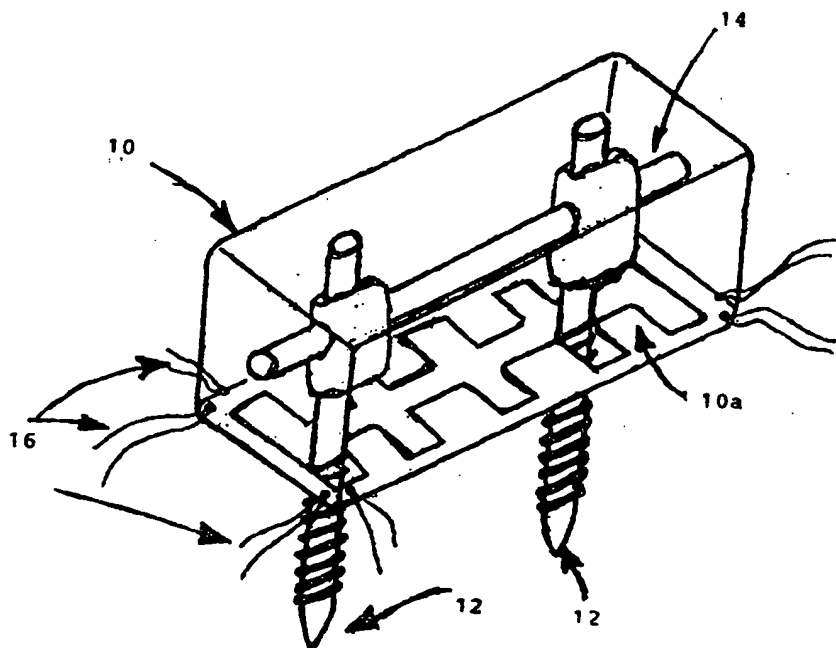
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(52) U.S. Cl. 606/72; 606/53

(57) ABSTRACT

A bone instrumentation cover or shield has a hollow cap or casing for encapsulating projecting parts of instrumentation installed in a bone, and a fastener portion provided at a lower edge of the cap or casing for securing it to the bone or to parts of the instrumentation where it is installed in the bone. The instrumentation shield or cover is designed to provide a medically-safe physical barrier for implantation between projecting parts of bone instrumentation constructs and surrounding bone and soft tissues, in order to minimize local irritation or injury and also serve as a barrier to ingrowth from bone and/or fibrous tissues. The shield or cover can be formed in a variety of forms, from rigid casing, to semi-pliable sheath-like structure, to soft pouch or cinch sack. The cap or casing is readily applied over the instrumentation, then cinched, tied or fastened to the instrumentation or adjacent areas, using a locking toothed edge, suture ties, suture strings, drawstrings and the like. The cover is made of medically safe material, and can come in various sizes or constructed to be pliable, stretchable, or adaptable with slidable, displaceable or pleated panels.



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